



CONTACT



Magazine for and about Air Force Reserve members assigned to the 349th Air Mobility Wing, Travis Air Force Base, California

Vol. 25, No. 07

July 2007



301st Airlift Squadron members make pilgrimage, retrace unit's history

Inside this issue**3-4 Leadership Commentaries**

Wing leadership commentaries share motivational words of wisdom.

5 Travis Team Voluntary Protection Program foster safety as a way of life

Voluntary Protection Program converts safety to a core value as compared to a priority through a supportive atmosphere that fosters safety as a way of life.

6 Former graduate, Airman provide mentoring at JROTC competition

When Fairfield's Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps needed judges for a drill competition they called upon a former JROTC and Travis Team member to help.

7 'Make it happen' with 349th Wing Enlisted Workshop

The 349th announces it's theme 'Make it Happen' for it's seventh annual WEW.

8 Rules restrict posting of images and certain ideas on Internet social sites**9 Dates announced for Wing Employer Appreciation Days**

Give your boss a chance to see you in action. Employer Appreciation Days include a briefing, an aircraft display, an orientation flight and a workplace tour; all designed to give a greater understanding of the Reserve mission.

10 Operation 'Dirty Pigeon' - 349th ASTS shows it's stuff

The 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron practices the details of combat situation medical treatment here during Operation 'Dirty Pigeon' Jun. 1-3.

10 Shoplifting decreases, while costs to military communities goes up**11 349th Air Mobility Wing Enlisted promotions****12 AMC presents MATCHUP - this summer competition for prizes**

Air Mobility Command presents the AMC Services MATCHUP game, with over 12,000 prizes and offerings to give away!

On the Cover**Remembering a fallen friend:**

Col. Lloyd Neblett (ret.), commander of the 301st Troop Carrier Squadron in 1944 and winner of the Distinguished Flying Cross during World War II, places flowers on the grave of a fellow 301st TCS member who died during the battle on D-Day. The 301st Airlift Squadron, made this pilgrimage to England to retrace their unit's history. One of many stops was the Cambridge American Cemetery in Cambridge, England. Members of the Heritage stand at attention looking on (left to right): Master Sgt. Steve Burke, 301st AS, Maj. Kenneth Tyler, 349th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Senior Master Sgt. Taylor Dowtin, 349th AES, Technical Sgt. Jack Geigle, 860th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Maj. Anita Fligge, 349th AES, and Flight Lt. Matt Doncaster, Number 99 Squadron C-17 pilot, Royal Air Force. (Editor's note: Visit the 349th Wing web site at www.349amw.afrc.af.mil for full article.)



Cover photo by Master Sgt. Wendy Weidenhamer,
349th Public Affairs



349th Air Mobility Wing
Office of Public Affairs
520 Waldron Street
Travis AFB, CA 94535-2171
Office Hours:
Monday - Friday and UTAs
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Phone: (707) 424-3936
FAX: (707) 424-1672

Commander

Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Gisler, Jr.

Chief, Public Affairs

Capt. Robin Jackson

Deputy Chief, Public Affairs

Ronald C. Lake

Editor

Patti Schwab-Holloway

Public Affairs Staff

Capt. Tawny M. Dotson

Capt. Kelly D. Gabel

Senior Master Sgt. Marvin Meek

Master Sgt. Wendy Weidenhamer

Technical Sgt. Mary Beth Bemis

Technical Sgt. Tony Castro

Staff Sgt. Meredith Mingledorff

Staff Sgt. Charlene M. Hanley

Contact magazine is the monthly, authorized publication of the Air Force Reserve's 349th Air Mobility Wing, Travis Air Force Base, California. It is printed under a contract with Folger Graphics, Hayward, California. The contents expressed herein are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Air Force. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Missing your **CONTACT** magazine? The magazine is mailed each month to the address on file with Personnel Systems. If you aren't receiving your magazine, check with your orderly room or administration section to ensure your address is correct.

Have fun, be safe on 4th of July

Welcome to this month's unit training assembly. By now everyone has probably heard how the Staff Assistance Visit went, but just in case you have not heard, let me be the one to tell.

It went just as I knew it would. Great! The final report stated that, "overall, the wing was found to be in a high state of mission readiness. Although one of the largest units in the command, this wing enjoys strong and effective officer and enlisted leadership across the board." The team came in to review an already smooth process and they were impressed, as am I. Of course with any process you can always improve and that is what they came in here to assist us with. So now we have some findings on exactly what we can do to be even better. I have seen the men and women of this dedicated wing in action, and I knew you would continue on with the same dedication and see us through the inspection with professionalism.

It is this commitment combined with the "above and beyond" attitude that continues to carry this wing forward in all that it undertakes; be it an inspection or supporting the efforts of a war. We were prepared for the inspection and it showed.

The members make the wing, and this wing is great!

I would like to take this time to

recognize some of the wings' outstanding award recipients, all from the 349th Logistics Readiness Flight: 4th Air Force Transportation Airman of the Year, Airman 1st Class Heather A. Souza; 4th AF Fuels Airman of the Year, Senior Airman Kyle Max; 4th AF and Air Force Reserve Command Fuels Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, Technical Sgt. John S. Kelley; 4th AF Fuels Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, Senior Master Sgt. Conrad Williams; 4th AF and AFRC Supply Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, Technical Sgt. Terry A. Jackson; and 4th AF Golden Derrick Award, 349th LRS Fuels Flight.

The 2007 California Air Force Association award winners: Air Force Reserve Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, Senior Master Sgt. Conrad Williams; Air Force Reserve Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, Technical Sgt. Terry A. Jackson; and Air Force Reserve Airman of the Year, Airman 1st Class Heather A. Souza.

Congratulations to all of you for a job well done; continue your work ethic and your success will pave your way.

July begins with the celebration of our country's independence. While having a good time with family and friends remember those brave men and women that fought so that we might have the freedom to speak up when things are not



By Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Gisler, Jr.

as they should be; the freedom to worship in churches of our choice. The reality of today is our nation is at war. There are individuals that have served and sacrificed before us and now many are going in harms way everyday and some are paying the ultimate price. It does not matter whether we are fighting at home or abroad because we fight to ensure that people taste the savory flavor of freedom. We fight against an enemy that propagates tyranny, fear and oppression with the desire to spread this to all corners of the globe. They are not who we want to live under nor the ones we want our children to live under. The taste of freedom is sweet but it comes at a very high price as it always has throughout history. I don't know about you, but I still get "goose bumps" when I hear the song, "God Bless America," or when I stand and "Pledge Allegiance to the Flag." So on this "Fourth of July" enjoy the holiday, be especially safe and have fun but don't forget those who made and are still making this celebration possible.

Influencing lives of others through relationships

by Chaplain (Maj.) Robert Meissner
349th Air Mobility Wing

What's in a word or an action? We've all been influenced by people in our lives, whether they are icons we look up to or ordinary people we know personally. They leave an imprint on our lives and they help mold who we are and who we will become. Have you stopped to consider how you are influencing the lives of other people?

Influence travels through our relationships. It's contagious. Notice the middle word in influence: F-L-U. People who are influential pass on what they have like the flu. Whether we like it or not, we are all carriers of character. Who we are to others influences them. Some may quickly write us off as not worth bothering about, some may be deeply affected by us. We can never be sure about the effect we may

have on another individual. We pass on our values, our attitudes and in one way or another, influence others we come into contact with. The imprint we have on another person's life may be far reaching.

We need to make sure that what we give to others by way of influence is a blessing and not a curse. The apostle Paul said in his letter to the Corinthians, "Do not cause anyone to stumble" (I Corinthians 10:32). I recall walking with my family in a mall one afternoon and hearing an obviously overstressed mom say to her child, "Shut up, no one cares what you think." My children, who were young at the time, looked at me with raised eyebrows. What is our influence on others? In my civilian job on a pastoral staff for a fairly large church, I've seen and counseled many adults who have struggled their entire life because of the negative influence of a parent or others in their lives.

The Great Commandment sums up our responsibility to God and to others: we are to love God with our whole heart and mind and other people as ourselves. Nothing matters more to God than relationships. When I care about someone else as much as I care about myself, I start to look out for their best interests. And I realize that how I influence others matters to God. How I relate to others, how I treat them and speak to them can either build them up or tear them down. One way or another, my influence will be felt; sometimes in small insignificant ways and other times in deep life-changing ways.

We are going to influence others whether we realize it or not. God wants us to influence people for their good. We should never underestimate the power of one word, one action, one moment that we have in the life of another person.

I am an American Airman

This month I have a challenge for you. Earlier this year our Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. T. Michael Moseley, released our Airman's Creed. Using this new creed to focus on our war fighting ethos, he states, "We're attempting to give credit to 700,000 Airmen — Active, Guard, Reserve and civilians — who fight our nation's wars and give them the sense of ownership of a combatant organization. This is to recognize who we are and the contributions we have made and make and to set the course for the future with a refined, reemphasized and remilitarized Air Force." Breaking it down even further, our Command Chief Master Sergeant for the Air Force Reserve Command, Chief Master Sergeant Troy McIntosh, wrote the following commentary, which struck close to home for me, so I share it with you:

Take time to learn Airman's Creed - The Air Force chief of staff recently released the new Airman's Creed. I encourage each of you to take the time to read each line. Although it means something different to each of us, the creed represents the Air Force and the personnel in it. We are proud of our contributions, and this will unite all ranks behind one creed — the American Airman! The creed begins, "I am an American Airman." It starts with pride. Every day we support the efforts to win the war on terrorism, our top priority. "I am a warrior." Hundreds of Airmen risk their lives each day to provide the right of democracy and freedom to the world. "I have answered my nation's call." We are part of the world's largest volunteer force. "I am an American Airman," faithful to the end at any cost! "My mission is to fly, fight and win." As we streamline our force, we become more agile, ready to deploy anywhere in the world at anytime. "I am faithful to a proud heritage." The Air Force Reserve has had many enlisted leaders who have paved the way for the future. People like Chief Master Sgt. Robert Boyle, our first senior enlisted advisor; Chief Master Sgt. Charles Joseph, our first African-American senior enlisted advisor; and Chief Master Sgt. Carol Smits,

our first female senior enlisted advisor. "A tradition of honor and a legacy of valor." The Air Force Reserve prides itself in its ability to meet war-fighters' needs with volunteers. We have always exceeded the expectation of the Air Force when it comes to answering the call to duty and will continue until the job is done. "I am an American Airman." I stand tall and proud of who I am and what I represent — the American way. "Guardian of freedom and justice." Thousands of Airmen have paid the ultimate sacrifice for democracy. They will never be forgotten. "My nation's sword and shield, its sentry and avenger. I defend my country with my life." On 9/11, we as a country learned that we can never let our guard down and that the country depends on its Citizen Airmen to provide the security it needs. Our actions were swift and just, and many have lost their lives in this long pursuit. But we cannot and will not fail. We will provide a safe environment for our children and our future generations. "I am an American Airman: wingman, leader, warrior." There is no doubt we are an unrivaled wingman! "I will never leave an Airman behind." On each special event, we honor those who cannot be with us today; those who have been missing or detained for such a long time that we begin to forget



**By Command Chief Master Sgt.
Patricia A. Thornton**

their names. Let's not allow ourselves to enter such a hollow place. Instead, let's continue to honor their legacy and never forget the families that still wait for the return of their loved ones. "I will never falter, and I will not fail." We belong to the most advanced Air Force in the world! We will support each and every task as if it's the last. We will succeed or seek guidance and or leadership to help complete the task. That is who we are — an American Airman. We stand proud, ready to succeed, ready to protect! We are the unrivaled Airman! I hope each of you will put something personal behind each line of the Airman's Creed. We should all commit this creed to memory and trust that when we are asked to recite it, we are reciting a long legacy of heritage. Once again, it is truly my honor to represent the most valuable asset to the Air Force Reserve — you! Together, we are the "unrivaled wingman" and true partners in the Total Force. This is to recognize who we are and the contributions we have made and make and to set the course for the future with a refined, reemphasized and remilitarized Air Force."

Here's the challenge. By the time you read this, I will have the creed memorized, so when you see me, challenge me to recite it. And be ready to proudly declare it with me!

As we go forth this month and celebrate the anniversary of our nation's independence, remember those who continue to be in harm's way or struggle with hardship, whether it's those still recovering from Katrina or fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. Let's keep them in our thoughts and prayers, and remember that by being excellent in all we do is our way of reaching out and contributing to them and the larger cause. We are American Airmen!

THE AIRMAN'S CREED

**I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.
I AM A WARRIOR.
I HAVE ANSWERED MY NATION'S CALL.
I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN.
MY MISSION IS TO FLY, FIGHT, AND WIN.
I AM FAITHFUL TO A PROUD HERITAGE,
A TRADITION OF HONOR,
AND A LEGACY OF VALOR.
I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN,
GUARDIAN OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE,
MY NATION'S SWORD AND SHIELD,
ITS SENTRY AND AVENGER.
I DEFEND MY COUNTRY WITH MY LIFE.
I AM AN AMERICAN AIRMAN:
WINGMAN, LEADER, WARRIOR.
I WILL NEVER LEAVE AN AIRMAN BEHIND,
I WILL NEVER FALTER,
AND I WILL NOT FAIL.**

Voluntary Protection Program fosters safety

by Lt. Col. Scott Sandberg
349th Wing Safety

What the heck is this Voluntary Protection Program stuff anyway? In a nutshell -- it converts safety to a core value as compared to a priority through a supportive atmosphere that fosters safety as a way of life. What?! It empowers every individual to make safety decisions. It not only encourages, but absolutely empowers every member of an organization to take charge of the safety environment in their respective work areas. VPP mandates supervision and leadership at all levels to enable the free flow of safety related information and action among their constituents.

VPP also encourages every individual to take immediate action when they encounter an urgent safety matter. In other words, if you see a potential hazard you don't call the USR or wing safety. You take steps to mitigate it and prevent further possibility for hazard. See a liquid spill, clean it up and or cordon off the area. See an emergency exit blocked, find a way to unblock it and work within your unit to eliminate that or any other hazard permanently.

Sounds simple enough, but haven't we always been empowered to act on behalf of safety in the past? The answer to that is of course a resounding yes, but the evolution of our safety culture has brought many of us to an atmosphere of compliance, which is fine; but what VPP aims to do is make safety a process. Through VPP safe practices and a safe environment will be a part of the fabric of our entire organization where the things we do everyday will be smarter and safer than how we perform now. Our safety processes will be so ingrained in our normal activities it will be like putting on our socks. In the past, we tended to think of

safety in terms of our next inspection instead of the actual ramifications of the simple things we do everyday.

VPP has four main tenants at its core: **Management Leadership and Employee Involvement; Work Site Analysis; Hazard Prevention and Control, and Safety and Health Training.**

Management Leadership and Employee Involvement means Leaders/Managers must provide visible leadership by going above and beyond safety and health compliance through:

- Establishing clear lines of communications for safety and health policies.
 - Creating an environment that allows for reasonable employee access to top site management.
 - Setting example of safe and healthful behavior.
 - Ensuring all workers, including contractors, are provided equally high quality safety and health protection.
 - Clearly defining responsibilities in writing.
 - Established goals and objectives for meeting the goals.
- The site culture must enable and encourage effective employee involvement in at least four meaningful ways:
- Participation in committees, audits, investigations.
 - Receive feedback from suggestions, hazard reports.
 - Must be notified of VPP site participation and rights to report hazards.

-Demonstrate understanding of basic principles of VPP.

Work Site Analysis begins with a baseline safety/health hazard analysis. This should be conducted to identify and control common hazards in the entire worksite for comparison to future levels. Work site analysis also includes:

- Hazard Analysis.
- Pre-use Analysis.
- Documenting and Use of Hazard Analysis.
- Routine Inspections.
- Employee Hazard Reporting System.
- Industrial Hygiene.
- Accident/Incident Investigations.
- Trend Analysis.

Hazard Prevention and Control means the site must have adequate access to safety professionals and industrial hygienists to assist in the following:

- Site hazards identified during the hazard analysis process must be eliminated or controlled by developing and implementing the systems above.
- The hazard controls must be understood and followed by the affected parties, and appropriate to the hazard and the size of the worksite.

Safety and Health Training means everyone in the organization must be trained on recognizing hazardous conditions and the signs/symptoms of workplace related illnesses. In addition, everyone:

(See VPP on Page 7)



Courtesy photo

Brig. Gen. Thomas M. Gisler, Jr., 349th Air Mobility Wing commander, participates in a signing ceremony, May 4, at the 60th AMW conference room pledging the commitment of the 349 Wing to the Travis Team Voluntary Protection Program.

Airman provides mentoring of a different kind

by Master Sgt. Wendy Weidenhamer
349th Public Affairs

With precision, rifles fly through the air like acrobats who seem to defy gravity and land in the confident hands of a fellow Junior Reserve Officer Training cadet—the JROTC NORCAL Drill Competition was in full swing, April 28, at Fairfield High School, Fairfield, Calif.

This is the second biggest event of the year for Army, Navy and Air Force JROTC cadets. Putting on an event like this, which consists of many military activities held at the same time, can be a big job. When Fairfield JROTC needed 35 judges for the competition they called Technical Sgt. Duncan Ballantyne, 349th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, Aircraft Inspection Section. Sergeant Ballantyne is a graduate of Fairfield and former member of their JROTC with many fond memories of those times, so the decision to help was an easy one for him.

"I graduated from Fairfield High School and I know what these kids are going through," said Sergeant Ballantyne, who was tall and neatly dressed. With a shy smile he said, "I know how long it takes to do these things they're doing. It takes dedication and motivation. They deserve a lot of credit if they work hard enough to earn a trophy for their school."

Sergeant Ballantyne, with his "can do" attitude, immediately snapped into action, the search for judges was on. He sent letters to squadron commanders and followed up by attending squadron meetings to spread the word and recruit volunteers. With a flurry of e-mails and the support and enthusiastic encouragement of his supervisor, Master Sgt. Howard Cox, 349th EMS, Sergeant Ballantyne exceeded expectations and recruited 45 volunteer judges from both the Air Force Reserve and active duty.

"Sergeant Ballantyne's involvement is a perfect example of leadership by example and giving back to the community," said Sergeant Cox. "He not only coordinated the base volunteers for the judging, he mentored numerous

young Airman along the way. He exemplifies the 'One team, One fight' concept as this was a Reserve and active duty team."

Volunteering with the cadets helps to get them involved, encourages them to make and reach goals and gives them an insight into the military by having the opportunity to talk with members of the military, said Sergeant Ballantyne.

He not only recruited judges but also volunteered to serve as lead judge for the competition, assisting and answering questions from less experienced judges.

The event drew 600 cadets from 20 schools from California, Nevada, and Utah. Fairfield High was the sponsor with cadets and their parents putting on fund raisers to provide necessary materials and equipment.

One fundraiser to buy trophies the cadets put on was called a "drill down," a judged drill practice (sort of like "American Idol" only without Simon.) The cadets paid \$5.00 a ticket to participate, and the winner received a trophy.

Any member of JROTC can participate in the NORCAL competition. The decision to compete involves commitment to what can be an intense practice schedule to master the precise movements and

discipline required. But the rewards can be great and show that hard work along with lots and lots of questions really do pay off.

"A perfect example would be Cadet Col. Russell the squadron commander for Fairfield High," said Sergeant Ballantyne. "I remember four years ago when Russell was a freshman and a Cadet Senior Airman; his hard work and dedication to the JROTC program has now put him in the top position. He was always the Cadet that asked the most questions before and after the NORCAL drill Competition. All his questions I answered helped him improve his performance in the later competitions.

Every year he asks about how to improve, even after winning first place. I have also learned that hard work and dedication will always pay off in the end; Russell's story is a perfect example of that," Sergeant Ballantyne added.

Competitions can be intense and joining the JROTC can be a lot of work, but that did not deter Sergeant Ballantyne, who decided to join the JROTC after talking with his dad.

"My dad retired from the Air Force here at Travis and he encouraged me to join the JROTC and I'm glad I did," said Sergeant

(See JROTC on next page)



photo by Senior Airman Michael Leister, 349th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

These two cadets took home first place for the two-person armed competition during the NORCAL JROTC Competition, April 28, at Fairfield High School, Fairfield, Calif., beating out 20 other school JROTC teams from Calif, Nev. and Utah. Here each partner tosses their rifle to the other in a choreographed routine they developed, as judges (from left to right) Airman First Class Michael Klepacz, 60th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, and Staff Sgt. Samuel Hegje, 349th EMS, give them their full attention as they evaluate each movement.

'Make it Happen' with 349th seventh annual Wing Enlisted Workshop

by Staff Sgt. Meredith Mingledorff
349th Public Affairs

The 349th Air Mobility Wing Rising Six Council will host the 7th Annual 349th Wing Enlisted Workshop to take place on Travis Air Force Base, Oct. 17-19 at the 349th Aerial Port Squadron's Training Center located in Bldg. 921.

Last year's event grew to an impressive three-day workshop with more than 200 attendees — an achievement the 349th Wing will repeat this year.

"We are planning a top-notch workshop that will provide as much information as

possible for reservist members to improve their knowledge, excel in their career fields and climb through the ranks," said Technical Sgt. Dion Graham, 349th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and president of the 349th Rising Six.

"The purpose of the workshop is to provide valuable tools and information vital to enlisted career progression," said Command Chief Master Sgt. Patricia Thornton, 349th AMW. "I highly encourage our junior enlisted personnel to attend so they can learn how to apply this year's theme, 'Make it Happen,' in their own careers."

Some of the topics planned for discussion include how to write an enlisted performance report, career progression, the Air Force "Fit to Fight" program, new Airmen's Creed and healthy living. Mentoring is also an important topic of discussion and Airmen are encouraged to participate in networking opportunities made available through the workshop. Scheduled activities include a senior vs. junior enlisted softball game and

social mixer.

Air Force Reserve Command Chief Master Sgt. Troy McIntosh is scheduled to take part in a Command Chief's panel, which will provide the enlisted force a unique opportunity to hear first hand from several of our highest-ranking noncommissioned officers just what it takes to be a success in the Air Force Reserve. Also scheduled to speak and close out the workshop on the last day is Chief of Air Force Reserve and Commander, Air Force Reserve Command, Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley.

Details for the event are still being worked out by members of the Rising Six and the Wing Enlisted Workshop Committees. For more information, interested parties are encouraged to contact Sergeant Graham at (707) 424-2440, or via email at Dion.Graham@travis.af.mil.



"The purpose of the workshop is to provide valuable tools and information vital to enlisted career progression,"

-- Command Chief Master Sgt. Patricia Thornton

JROTC...

(Continued from previous page)

Ballantyne. "The experience gave me the opportunity to learn responsibility, attention to detail, and discipline."

Sergeant Ballantyne thinks there are other benefits to helping the JROTC cadets.

"It's important to get involved with the community instead of being looked at as those military guys passed that gate," said Sergeant Ballantyne. "Also, there are a lot of parents there that we talk with. Parents are especially concerned with their son or daughter pursuing a military career. And of course, we talk to cadets and answer any questions they may have and they always have a lot."

Stepping outside of our own world, looking into the eyes of eager young cadets like this and being there to answer a barrage of their questions—no matter what it's called, helping others to be the best they can be is worth all the time we can give.

VPP...

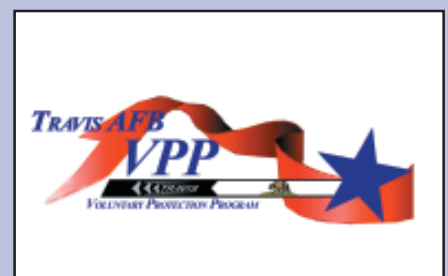
(Continued from Page 5)

- Must be made aware of hazards.
- Must be held accountable for participation and involvement in VPP.

So there you have it -- the Voluntary Protection Program, where everyone is responsible for safety, job risks can and will be managed by **everyone**, injuries are preventable with training, preparation and total awareness and finally where leadership is accountable for ensuring a safe work environment.

All safety begins with you and mission success starts with safety!

Find out more about VPP at: <https://w3.travis.af.mil/60AMW/VPP/>.



Rules restrict posting of images, words online

Many Airmen like to log onto Internet social sites to keep in touch with friends, meet new ones and vent frustrations.

However, if they use offensive language and images on MySpace.com, Facebook.com and other sites, they could face disciplinary actions for opening a virtual Pandora's Box.

One leading online problem for military people is the posting photos of themselves in uniform while making remarks that would be viewed as sexually offensive or racially bigoted.

"We all know use of racist or sexist language or language critical of the Department of Defense or its officials, if spoken by an Airman who's in uniform, can cause the person big problems," said Philip Donohoe, director of general law at Air Force Reserve Command headquarters.

"If an Airman posts a Web photo of himself or herself in uniform, then also posts language that's racist, sexist or critical of DOD policy or officials, that can also cause problems for the person," he said. "Military people enjoy free speech but they're subject to more limits on free speech than a non-military person of the general public, so they must take some care."

Air Force Instruction 36-2706, Military Equal Opportunity Program, paragraph 1.1.1, mandates that "The Air Force recognizes that all written or verbal communication degrading individuals on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion or sex remain a form of unlawful discrimination."

After people join the service, they are subject to certain freedom of speech restrictions. The purpose of these restrictions is to protect the integrity of the Armed Services. Airmen need to know they will be held to a higher standard of conduct whether on or off duty.

To be completely safe, military people should never post pictures of themselves engaging in any activity that would cast a bad light on the Air Force. They should never use language accompanying any photos that could be construed as lewd, prejudicial or disparaging. And, they should not post criticisms of the Armed Services or the president while at the same time identifying themselves as service members.

AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel, table 1.3, warns "Do not wear the uniform when participating in public speeches, interviews, picket lines, marches

or rallies, or in any public demonstration when the Air Force sanction of the cause for which the activity is conducted may be implied...furthering political activities, private employment or commercial interests or working in an off-duty civilian capacity."

"If you can't wear the

uniform in connection with live political activities - meaning you can't go to a political rally while in uniform - then it's highly likely you also can't display or allow display of a photo of yourself in uniform in connection with the same kind of prohibited, political activity," said Mr. Donohoe. "Here, you couldn't and shouldn't post a photo of yourself in uniform on a website that also contains your political statements or someone else's political statements."

Airmen won't get off the hook by saying, "The uniform AFI only talks about actually wearing the uniform when I'm physically attending a political event. But that's just a photo of me in uniform on a website; I'm not 'attending' anything." They will lose the argument, if they posted or allowed their photo in uniform to be posted, on a political website, said Mr. Donohoe.

Another online problem is posting deployment information that could possibly weaken operational security. Some people have included "countdown clocks" on their MySpace.com profiles that tell the exact date that they will either be deploying overseas or returning home from a deployment. The World War II adage

"Loose lips sink ships" meaning unguarded talk could give useful information to the enemy still applies today. "OPSEC is in place not only to protect the unit but also the individual member," said Mr. Donohoe. "If Al Qaeda is looking to disrupt a U.S. military deployment, guess who just made themselves a good target? If a thief plans to burglarize a house and he knows the exact date that you are away, your house just became a target." Airmen also should remember that the appearance of Air Force endorsement is a litmus test that can be used to decide if they have crossed the line. Implying Air Force endorsement of any business, personal opinion or Internet site is prohibited under Department of Defense, Joint Ethics Regulation guidelines. "One of the biggest no-no's is showing yourself in uniform connected in any way with a commercial venture," said Mr. Donohoe. "There is no tolerance for implying military endorsement for your own gain." The bottom line is that Airmen should use caution, and a little common sense, when using any Internet social site. While freedom of speech is important, protecting the dignity of the Air Force and maintaining OPSEC are paramount, said Mr. Donohoe. If people see a possible violation, they should report it to their chain of command immediately. (*Air Force Reserve Command News Service*)



Employer Information

Employer's Emergency Phone: () _____
(Area Code and Number)

Note: An Air Force Certificate of Appreciation will be prepared for each employer using the name you provide. Please insure that the name above is clearly legible and correctly spelled so the certificate is correct when presented by the Commander.

Sponsoring Reservist Information

Home () _____ Work () _____

Note: An orientation flight is offered to employers pending approval by higher headquarters and is subject to cancellation. Space is limited; one employer per reservist. Reserve members may accompany their employer if space is available.

Employer Appreciation Day dates

SEP 8 -- Mission Support Group: Point of contact is Senior Master Sgt. Ronald Nielsen, (707) 424-4904
***(Note: phone number changed from previous issue)**

Disclosure: Voluntary - home address/phone is required to contact employers regarding their Employer Appreciation Day participation.

349th ASTS - Operation 'Dirty Pigeon'

by Staff Sgt. Charlene Hanley
349th Public Affairs

In any combat situation medical treatment of sick and wounded is of utmost importance. The military has some of the best medical personnel and facilities available but not much thought is given to how those sick and injured get there. That demanding job is one of the responsibilities of the 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.

The 349th ASTS is responsible for setting up a Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility which is used to prepare patients for flight to a military hospital. Working closely with the Aeromedical Evacuation Squadrons and Critical Care Air Transport Teams, the CASF provides a staging area between the flight line and the hospital where the patient can still receive the care necessary.

Operation 'Dirty Pigeon' provided a chance for the ASTS to train on all aspects of their mission.

This gives a lot of younger troops experience in real world type situations, said Technical Sgt. Carolina Melgar, 349th ASTS. It also allows the senior troops a chance to use their leadership skills and lend their experience.

The ASTS usually trains continuously in small increments to maintain the skills

necessary for their job field. "This training is the whole picture," said Lt. Col. Fawn McCloud, chief nurse with the 349th ASTS.

Doing this type of training allows troops a safe environment to experience, learn, and to practice doing some of the basic aspects of the job.

Hands on experience is important so we know what to expect with the confusion, the noise level, and the emotional intensity that this type of situation will bring in the real world, said Colonel McCloud.



photo by Senior Airman Richard Giles, 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Members from the 349th Aeromedical Staging Squadron practice the many details involved in combat situation medical treatment of sick and wounded during Operation 'Dirty Pigeon,' June 1-3. Members had the opportunity to load a litter onto an Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopter here (above) during this field training exercise.

NEWS BRIEFS

SNCO Leadership Course set

Do you have what it takes to be a leader? Leaders are loyal; they listen and care about their people. Leaders set high standards and give pats on the back. Most importantly, leaders provide direction. Sept. 29-30, Travis will be conducting the Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Leadership Course.

This course provides senior NCOs the opportunity to explore in-depth communications, trust, teamwork and leadership issues and initiatives.

If you have never attended the SNCOLC then you are missing out on a great course. The prerequisites are: be in the grade of master, senior master, or chief master sergeant and never have attended this course, enroll using the application form letter and submitting the form to Wing training by Aug. 19.

The class will be conducted in Building

206 on the non-UTA weekend. Uniform requirements will be Battle Dress Uniform or flight suits. For more information contact Master Sgt. Debra Chappell, Wing Training Office, (707) 424-1615.

Scam targets military spouses

The American Red Cross is warning military spouses about a new identity-theft scam. The scam involves a person with an American accent calling a military spouse, identifying herself as a representative of the Red Cross, and telling the spouse that their military member was hurt in Iraq and was medically evacuated to Germany. The caller then says that doctors can't start treatment until paperwork is completed, and that to start the paperwork they need to verify the members social security number and date of birth.

American Red Cross representatives

typically go through a commander or first sergeant, according to a Red Cross news release. Military family members are urged not to give out any personal information over the phone, including confirmation that their spouse is deployed.

Red Cross representatives contact people directly only in response to an emergency message initiated by a family member, and does not report any type of casualty information to family members; the DOD contacts families directly about family members' injuries.

It is a federal crime, punishable by up to five years in prison, for a person to fraudulently pretend to be an agent for the American Red Cross for the purpose of soliciting, collecting, or receiving money or material. Any military family member who receives such a call is urged to report it to his or her local family readiness group or military personnel flight. (AFPS)

UNIT VACANCIES

AFSC	AFSC Title	Grade	#	AFSC	AFSC Title	Rank	#
11M3A	Mobility Pilot, C-5	Officer	3	32E3G	General Civil Engineer	Officer	1
11M3K	Mobility Pilot, C-17	Officer	6	3E151	Heating, Vent, A/C & Ref	SSgt	1
1A071	In-Flight Refueling	SSgt	1	3E451	Utilities System	SSgt	1
1A291	Aircraft Loadmaster	SMSgt	2	3E471	Utilities System	TSgt	1
1N071	Operations Intel	TSgt	1	3E472	Liquid Fuel Sys Maint	TSgt	1
1T071	Surv, Evas, Resist & Esp	TSgt	1	3E551	Engineering	SSgt	1
21A3	Aircraft Maintenance	Officer	1	3E651	Operations Mgmt	SSgt	2
21R3	Logistics Readiness	Officer	5	3E851	Explosive Ord Disposal	SSgt	6
2A551J	Aerospace Maint, C-5	SSgt	5	3E891	Explosive Ord Disposal	SMSgt	1
2A551L	Aerospace Maint, KC-10	SSgt	12	3E891	Explosive Ord Disposal	CMSgt	1
2A553A	Intergrated Avonics Sys	SSgt/TSgt	1/1	3E951	Readiness	SSgt	1
2A553B	Intergrated Avonics Sys	SSgt/TSgt	1/1	3S271	Education & Training	TSgt	1
2A651A	Aerospace Propul, Jet Eng	SSgt	18	41A3	Health Services Admin	Officer	3
2A652	Aerospace Ground Equip	SSgt	2	42G3	Physician Assistant	Officer	1
2A654	Aircraft Fuel System	SSgt	3	44F3	Family Physician	Officer	3
2A655	Aircraft Hydraulic System	SSgt/TSgt	2/1	44M3	Internist	Officer	5
2A675	Aircraft Hydraulic System	MSgt	1	44Y3	Critical Care Medicine	Officer	1
2A656	Aircraft Elect & Envir Sys	SSgt	2	45A3	Anesthesiologist	Officer	1
2A751	Aircraft Metals Technology	SSgt	1	45B3	Orthopedic Surgeon	Officer	2
2A753	Aircraft Structural Maint	SSgt	2	46F3	Flight Nurse	Officer	9
2E151	Satellite/WB Com Equip	SSgt	1	46N3	Clinical Nurse	Officer	2
2E153	Ground Radio Comm	SSgt	1	47G3A	Dentist, Comprehensive	Officer	1
2E173	Ground Radio Comm	TSgt	2	48A3	Aerospace Medicine	Officer	2
2G051	Logistic Plans	SSgt	2	48R3	Diagnostic Radiologist	Officer	4
2T251	Air Transportation	SrA/SSgt	9/8	4N071	Aerospace Medical Svc	TSgt/MSgt	5
2T271	Air Transportation	TSgt	1	4N071C	Aerospace Med Svc, IDMT	SSgt	1
2T291	Air Transportation	MSgt	3	4Y051	Dental Assistant	SSgt	1
2T351	Spec Veh & Equip Maint	SSgt	2	5J071	Paralegal	SSgt	1

For more information about these vacancies, go to <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecure/MainMenu.asp>.

PROMOTIONS



Chief Master Sergeant

William S. Morrissey, 749th AMXS



Senior Master Sergeant

Philip A. Hallstrom, 349th AMXS
Robert N. Ivey, 55th APS
Charles C. Jensen, 349th CS
Donald J. Kreun, 749th AMXS
Angelo V. Lera, 349th OG



Master Sergeant

Colin C. Baldwin, 349th MXG
Dayton A. Calhoun, 70th ARS

Jonathan D. Grace, 349th CS

Jerry D. Hall, 349th CMS

Thahn C. Lam, 349th EMS

Lavonne C. Lewis, 55th APS



Technical Sergeant

Emmanuel G. Amigleo, 349th AMDS

Rudie B. Collins, 349th AMXS

Garland J. Williams, 82nd APS



Staff Sergeant

James H. Evans, 349th LRF

Curtis D. Fluitt, 312th AS

Jeremy M. Frady, 70th ARS

Stephen J. Gardea, Jr., 55th APS

Alfred R. Hall, 349th AMXS

Christina L. Hayes, 349th LRF

Justin C. Loos, 55th APS

Edward L. Luna, 349th AMXS

Emilio J. Maldonado, 55th APS

Raymond J. Omoso, 349th EMS

David M. Smith, 749th AMXS



Senior Airman

Jason E. Geer, 82nd APS

Rachelle J. Richmond, 349th LRF

Robert R. Sanchez, 349th LRF



Airman First Class

Melvin G. Walker, 349th CES

**All promotions effective
June 1, 2007**

MATCHUP

TRAVIS AFB

MATCHUP Hot Spots

Get your game pieces at these locations:

MONDAYS

Arts & Crafts – Any purchase
Cypress Lakes – Any purchase
Travis Bowl – Any lane rental or Coke purchase

TUESDAYS

Delta Breeze Club – Lunch buffet
Fitness Center – Take a class
Library – Attend children's story time
or check out any item

WEDNESDAYS

Delta Breeze Club – Soup, sandwich & sports combo meal
Teen Zone – Attend

THURSDAYS

Aero Club – Any visit
Cypress Lakes – Any purchase
Outdoor Rec - Equipment rental

FRIDAYS

Aquatic Center - Any purchase
Vet Clinic – Any visit

SATURDAYS

Paintball – Any purchase

SUNDAYS

Aquatic Center - Any purchase
Paintball – Any purchase
Travis Bowl – Any lane rental or Coke purchase

MATCHUP NEWS

Air Mobility Command presents the AMC Services MATCHUP game, with over 12,000 prizes and offerings to give away! But here is the UNMATCHABLE news! With EACH game piece you'll get an entry into the UNMATCHABLE Grand Prize Drawing – for a brand new 2007 Saab 9-3 Aero! Other Grand Prize drawings include Carnival Cruise Vacations with \$1000 to \$3000 cash! Just shows that Nothing Else Can... MATCHUP!

HERE'S HOW TO PLAY AND WIN!

First register online at: www.amcmatchup.com. Then, log in or call the toll free number (1-888-597-9960) and enter the game piece you received at a participating AMC Services facility or event. Play online, and eligible participants could become an "Instawin" instant prize winner, right on the spot!* Either way, now you're entered in the UNMATCHABLE Grand Prize drawing! Plus, EACH week there will be FOUR random drawings at EACH BASE for a chance to put \$25 bucks in your pocket! Then, play our MATCHUP skill game for a chance to earn even more bonus entries.

MORE UNMATCHABLE NEWS!

Watch for local base level "InstaWin" contests for some great prizes like t-shirts and mugs! And STILL more! End of program drawings will include CASH drawings for \$500 and \$100 for EACH base!

IT'S A BASE RACE TOO!

Win BIG CASH for your base – here's how to Match up! Participating bases will be competing for special recognition and BIG Quality of Life cash awards. Each participant who registers for their base and plays a minimum of TWO game pieces will count towards their base's goal. The top five bases that most exceed their goal will win thousands of dollars in CASH incentive awards. Be sure to keep an eye on your Travis' status and keep playing to win!

TRAVIS AFB
SERVICES
Combat Support & Community Service

**349th AIR MOBILITY WING
520 WALDRON STREET
TRAVIS AFB CA 94535-2100
OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

**PRESORT FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HAYWARD, CA
PERMIT NO. 3335**

***"Never bypass an opportunity
to keep your mouth shut."***

--Maj. Gen. Paul Menoher, Jr.
Former Intelligence and Security
Commander

Operations Security definition:

- Process of denying adversaries information about friendly capabilities and intentions by identifying, controlling, and protecting indicators associated with the planning and conducting of operations and other activities.

